

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF
CITY OF ALAMEDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2006
7:30 PM

(The location of this meeting was City Hall, Room 360)

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Present: Commission Members: Dahlberg, Ezzy Ashcraft, Schmitz,
Trevithick and Wetzork

Absent: Commission Members Lindsey and Stieg

Vacancies: One

Staff: Dorene Soto and Rosemary Valeska

MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2005

Moved (Wetzork), seconded and unanimous (with abstention by Chairman Kelly) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2005 as submitted.

CONSENT CALENDAR

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC

There were no speaker slips from the public; however, Commission Member Ezzy Ashcraft acknowledged an Alameda High School student in the audience who was observing the meeting as a requirement for her government class.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. Informational Update on the Former East Housing and Fleet Industrial Supply Center Annex, Bayport Residential Project ***(Continued from October 20, 2005 and December 15, 2005 Regular Meetings)***

Redevelopment Manager Doug Cole was in attendance to answer any questions relating to the written update that had been provided to the EDC

at the October 20, 2005 Regular Meeting. There was discussion regarding the rate of housing project sales, the Tinker Avenue extension project, the status of the Breakers affordable housing and tax increment projections. Mr. Cole reported that the developer wants to re-entitle 900,000 square feet of Phase II with 300,000 square feet of retail and additional housing units. He also stated that Catellus was holding a public open house at Longfellow School on Saturday, January 21 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. regarding Phase II. This item was presented for informational purposes only; no EDC action was requested.

3. Request by the Public Works Department for an EDC Member to be Appointed to the Pedestrian Task Force ***(Continued from the December 15, 2005 Regular Meeting.)***

The Chair appointed Commission Member Wetzork to the Pedestrian Task Force. Commission Member Ezzy Ashcraft will replace Commission Member Wetzork on the Bicycle Master Plan Task Force in the event that a meeting is ever scheduled.

4. Re-evaluation of the Membership of the Economic Development Strategic Plan Update Subcommittee ***(Continued from the December 15, 2005 Regular Meeting.)***

Chairman Kelly stated that he was now inclined to stay with the current membership of the subcommittee and stated that Commission Members Dahlberg and Trevithick agreed with this position. Chairman Kelly stated that should a vacancy occur on the subcommittee, he would appoint Commission Member Trevithick to fill the vacancy. The subcommittee membership will continue to be comprised of Commission Members Wetzork (Chair), Dahlberg, Ezzy Ashcraft and Lindsey.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Presentation by City Attorney's Office Regarding Boards and Commissions Rules and Procedures

Assistant City Attorney Teresa Highsmith distributed copies of the handbook, *Open & Public III – A User's Guide to the Ralph M. Brown Act*. She explained the categories of meetings and the noticing requirements for each. She also discussed how it is important for members of legislative bodies to avoid building consensus on an item outside of a publicly noticed meeting. She also reviewed the types of items that could be handled in closed session. This item was presented for informational purposes only; no EDC action was requested.

REPORTS

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6. Oral Report: Commission Member Wetzork – Chair of the Economic Development Strategic Plan Subcommittee

Commission Member Wetzork stated that the subcommittee had met on January 10 to discuss the tentative agendas for the February 23 and March 2 community workshops. At the January 10 meeting, Commission Member Dahlberg recapped the meeting that he and Commission Member Wetzork had with Councilmember Matarrese regarding the history of the EDSP. The subcommittee will meet again on January 26. Report accepted.

7. Oral Report: Commission Member Schmitz – EDC representative to the Multi-Modal Transportation Task Force

Commission Member Schmitz stated that he had nothing new to report.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

8. Central Permits Office Routings & Interdepartmental Requests for Comment

9. Redevelopment – Building Better Communities, December 2005

10. Redevelopment – Building Better Communities, January 2006

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF

- Commission Member Dahlberg stated that the EDC needed to be kept better informed regarding the status of Alameda Point negotiations with the Navy, and that they have been getting all their information from newspaper articles. Ms. Soto stated that it is difficult to give status reports on matters that are still being negotiated and the EDC would not qualify for a closed session briefing in this matter. Ms. Soto stated that she would discuss with Debbie Potter, the Base Reuse & Community Development Manager, the EDC's request to be kept informed.
- Commission Member Ezzy Ashcraft requested quarterly updates on Bridgeside Shopping Center. Ms. Soto stated that groundbreaking had occurred in November and now everyone is waiting for the rainy season to end so serious construction can proceed. Nob Hill's plans are under review. The Round Table temporary pizza trailer is doing well. No other tenants have been announced – possibly within 60 – 90 days. Project completion is expected by Fall 2006.
- Ms. Soto stated that she would have project managers give updates on projects and the new duties of our re-organized department, e.g., the lead abatement program.

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- Ms. Soto stated that work should be starting over the coming weekend at Paul's Newstand. The project should be completed in about a month.
- Commission Member Wetzork requested that the new Planning and Building Director, Cathy Woodbury, be invited to officially meet the EDC. Ms. Soto stated that she would work on scheduling that for the February or March meeting.
- Commission Member Schmitz inquired regarding the status of Ron Goode Toyota. Ms. Soto stated that the dealership was staying in Alameda; however the business license is not in Len Goode's name. Mr. Goode may still own the land but he does not appear to be in a big rush to develop it. Staff contacts Mr. Goode on a regular basis; however, we're still in the dark regarding his intentions.
- Commission Member Ezzy Ashcraft commented on the following projects:
 - Asked about the status of the former Skylight Deli.
 - Robeks should put butcher paper in the windows during construction.
 - The Marketplace is almost done and looks good.
 - McGee's is building an outdoor patio.
 - Otaez on Webster will be opening in February. WABA is planning on holding their February mixer there.
 - At the Mayor's request, she had spoken with Lorre Zuppan, an applicant applying to the EDC.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorene E. Soto
Manager, Business Development Division

DES:rv

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